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January 11, 2023

To: Financial Aid Administrators

From: Becky Thompson, Director
Student Financial Assistance

RE: WCG award amounts

WSAC has completed an additional review of the existing RCW 28B.92 and WAC 250-21 related to the Washington College Grant in setting award amounts. As defined in statute, for students attending two or four year public institutions, the award amount is tuition and estimated fees for fifteen credit hours or the equivalent as determined by the office. Fees, include operating fees, building fees and services and activities fees.

Previously, guidance in the program manual indicated that award adjustments were also required if a student's individual tuition and estimated fees based on their college of choice was less than the award amount established at 15 credits. At some institutions, students enrolled in 12, 13, or 14 credits may have had tuition and estimated fees that were a few dollars below the 15 credit cost, resulting in extensive award revisions amounting to very small dollar amounts and creating undue administrative burden for all of the manual adjustments required.

WSAC has defined award amounts based on actual tuition and estimated fees using a 15 credit tuition and fee amount. Adjustments are only required for less than full time enrollment, as a result of need limitations or quarters of eligibility restrictions.

We will be updating the program manual shortly and it will be posted online at:
<https://wsac.wa.gov/FAA-resources>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.